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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, our help in ages past and our hope for years to come, we thank You for Your mercy and blessing toward the United States throughout our history. Hear us as we seek Your continued guidance in our day. May the women and men of this Senate be so sensitive to Your grand vision for our Nation that they will be a conscience to our citizens calling them back to You. Give these leaders soundness of judgment, courage in their decisions, and a united zeal to serve You together. You have warned us that a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. Help us to affirm that those things on which we agree are of greater value than those things on which we differ. As we work together, deepen our understanding of one another's needs and enlarge our respect for one another's opinions. Make us one in the common cause of justice, righteousness, and truth. We all commit ourselves to the work of government for the honor and glory of Your name. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, this morning, there will be a period for morning business until the hour of 12:30 p.m., with Senator COVERDELL of Georgia, or his designee, in control of the time between now and 11 a.m.; Sen-

ator FORD in control of the time from 11 a.m. to 12 noon; and Senator DASCHLE in control from 12 noon to 12:30 p.m.

Following morning business, the Senate will adjourn until 9 a.m. on Tuesday. No rollcall votes will occur during today's session, and the Senate will not be in session on Monday.

When the Senate reconvenes on Tuesday at 9 a.m., under the provisions of rule XXII, a live quorum will begin at 10 a.m.

Following the establishment of a quorum, there will be a rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1936, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. If cloture is invoked on Tuesday, it is the leader's hope that we may proceed in short order to the consideration of this important legislation. If cloture is not invoked, there will be a cloture vote on the Defense appropriations bill.

In that we have lost valuable time during the consideration of the Defense bill, the leader hopes that all Senators will cooperate and allow us to finish that matter and move on with the appropriations process.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Iowa be granted up to 6 minutes, not to be counted against the controlled time under my jurisdiction.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HUTCHISON). Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I thank the Senator from Georgia.

PULSE CHECK ON AMERICA

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, the Office of National Drug Control Policy recently released the latest "Pulse Check" on drug use and drug abuse in America. The "Pulse Check" provides an opportunity to see what is happening with drug use in markets across the country. The news is not

good. Other Senators and I have spoken often on this floor at the alarming trend in drug use. We have told the Nation that drug use is rising; that drug users are getting younger; and that the drugs are getting stronger and more dangerous.

We are heading down a dangerous road. "Pulse Check" does not report on trend lines. Instead, it provides a snapshot of what is happening, a road sign to what lies ahead. Here is what the most recent "Pulse Check" shows:

Heroin is gaining in popularity in many areas of the country. We are seeing higher purity and lower prices. The increased purity has allowed new users to avoid using needles. The result is increased use and popularity. In some areas, cocaine and crack dealers are being pressured by their South American distributors to diversify and also sell heroin.

The news on cocaine and crack use is also disturbing. While use remains stable throughout most areas of the country, availability remains high. Prices are fairly stable throughout the United States. Although it is losing some of its appeal in southern California, New York, and Colorado, it is gaining in popularity in areas in Texas, Delaware, Georgia, and Washington, DC, especially among female drug users. This supports recent reports that drug use no longer has a gender gap.

Perhaps the most disturbing news of all, marijuana use is up all over, especially among younger users. This is particularly disturbing in light of marijuana's role as a gateway drug. As a recent study by the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse shows, the earlier someone starts using marijuana, the more likely they are to move onto harder, more dangerous substances. Perhaps the first sign of this occurring can be seen in reports of increasing incidence of marijuana cigarettes laced with crack or PCP or even

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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